GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5102
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
ISSUING OF PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS IN ORISSA
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voters in Orissa;

(b) the number of voters who have been issued photo identity cards in Orissa; (

(c) whether the Union Government have released 50% of the total cost incurred by Orissa for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): The Election Commission has informed that as per the latest report received from the Chief Electoral Officer, Orissa, the total number of voters in Orissa is 2,41,72,899 and the number of persons issued with defect-free Photo Identity Cards is 1,81,88,207.

(c) : Yes, Sir. The Union Government has released provisional advance payments in excess of the 50% of the total expenditure incurred by the State Government of Orissa for the purpose of preparation of Photo Identity Cards, upto the financial year 1999-2000.

(d) : The State Government of Orissa has, since 1994-95, been allowed an on-account advance payment of Rs. 17,75,00,244/- as Government of India`s share of expenditure likely to be incurred on preparation of Photo Identity Cards.The audit certificates issued by the State Accountant General, for the years 1994-95 to 1997-98 indicate that the Government of India`s share of the expenditure incurred on this account during the said years is Rs. 15,69,32,899/-. The provisional figures of the Government of India`s share of the expenditure for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as received from the State Government do not indicate any expenditure having been incurred on this account. Thus, till 1999-2000, the State Government of Orissa was having an unutilized amount of Rs. 2,05,67,345/- of the Government of India`s share of expenditure on preparation of Photo Identity Cards.